

Losses due to refinery fire at Visakhapatnam

107. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRALAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the losses suffered by Hindustan Petroleum in the refinery fire at Visakhapatnam;

(b) the loss in actual term of destruction of property;

(c) the loss in quantitative term of production and markets;

(d) the loss of interest and other financial encumbrances due to this fire;

(e) whether it is a fact that top management was warned of the possibility of fire; and

(f) if so, the reasons for this neglect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) Because of fire incident in the refinery at Visakhapatnam, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited had suffered financial losses on account of damage to property, loss of products and crude thruput loss.

(b) The loss suffered by Visakh Refinery of Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited on account of damage to property was Rs. 49.29 crores (Rs. 39.02 crores towards assets in Refinery and Rs. 10.27 crores in Marketing Terminal), amount written off from book of accounts.

(c) Had there been no interruption in operation, the Refinery could have processed an additional quantity of 3.06 million metric tonne of crude. However, there was no loss of market for consumers of finished products as the supply of essential products like motor spirit, liquefied petroleum gas, diesel etc., was maintained from other sources.

(d) The loss was Rs. 138.35 crores including loss of profit due to production loss.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.